

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8-10 and 14-16 have been amended.

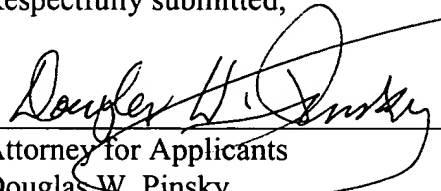
Claims 1, 8 and 14-16 are in independent form.

In the Advisory Action issued on June 24, 2003, the Examiner stated that “The amended claim 1, incorporates new matter particular pertaining to ‘a water repellent material having a superhydrophobic property, thereby changing the scope of the claimed subject matter’.” Without conceding the propriety of the Examiner’s contentions and solely to advance prosecution of the subject application, Applicants have amended “superhydrophobic” to “ultrahigh water-repellent” in the claims. Applicants submit that the claims as amended are fully supported by the original disclosure and contain no new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that no new matter objection or rejection be entered.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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